National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

NIAID Council News

1997 Administrative Supplement

How This Newsletter and the NIAID *Council News* Website Can Help You

This annual supplement to NIAID ***Council News*** shows where NIAID's scientific areas are administered in the Division of AIDS (DAIDS); the Division of Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation (DAIT); and the Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (DMID).

This document is also on our Website with additional program contact information (*http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/sup.htm*).

More help on the Web

You can find more information on the *Council News* Website to help you improve your chances of getting an award.

How to find your virtual information resource, the NIAID *Council News* Extramural Information Center

Here are two ways to get there:

Go to the Center's URL—

http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/main.htm

Or from the NIAID home page, *http://www.niaid.nih.gov,* under Information, click on **NIAID *Council News* Center.**

Lists of concepts, program announcements (PA), and requests for applications (RFA) let you know where the opportunities are.

Important policy changes are included too. As an example, the article on the next page lets you know that applications responding to our new PAs may be funded even if their priority scores are beyond the payline cutoff.

Using our Website, try the strategy outlined below to enhance your chances of gaining NIH funding.

Five steps for applicants

1. Review concepts approved by Council.

   Concepts represent the very earliest stage of the development of a research

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initiative: program announcement, request for applications, or request for proposals (RFP). To read descriptions of this fiscal year's concepts by Division, go to the Initiative Section of the Website at *http://www.niaid.nih. gov/ncn/in-main.htm*.

2. Check the table of published program announcements to see advertised areas in which we need applications.

   PAs published after May 1996 and all older PAs listed in the table on the Web come with a commitment that NIAID will fund grants in the targeted area, including some with percentiles beyond the payline. Find the table in the Initiative Section of the Website or go directly to *http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/pa-table.htm*.

3. Look at the list of current RFAs.

   Go to the RFA list in the Initiative Section of the Website or directly to *http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/rfa-new.htm*.

4. Search NIAID's grant portfolio via the Community of Science or CRISP.

   See where the gaps are in your field. Also, look at research funded by other NIH institutes. Avoid sending in an application in an area overpopulated with researchers. Both the Community of Science and CRISP links are in the Programs and Staff Section of the Website at *http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/st-main.htm*.

5. For more information and advice, call an NIAID program administrator.

   Go to the Web version of this document *(http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/sup.htm)* to see the appropriate contact person in the part of the Institute your area of science is administered.

New Program Announcements—What They Are

During the past year, NIAID has begun implementing a major policy shift, relying more heavily on PAs and less on RFAs and RFPs.

Since the inception of the change, we have gotten word that there is some confusion in the extramural community about the new style PAs. Here's how they work.

What's new

NIAID is now using mostly PAs to stimulate research in areas with gaps or opportunities.

The new PAs and some continuing ones come ***with a commitment that NIAID will use money to fund grants in the targeted area.*** Thus, high-quality applications with percentiles beyond the payline may be funded so we can build a research portfolio where needed.

In other words, NIAID will draw from applications scoring both above and below the payline, as necessary, to fund a sufficiently broad base of research in a high-priority area.

PAs that qualify are those published in the *NIH Guide* after September 6, 1996, and those listed on the next page.

Key Points to the PA Shift

PAs developed with the scientific community and Council

All PAs concept cleared with Council

NIAID to support more investigator-initiated research

NIAID to fund high-quality applications responding to PAs

Investigators to gain multiple receipt dates

Council to review applications in response to a PA

Council to do end of year review of science funded to see if objectives have been achieved

Why investigators benefit

The PAs afford applicants all the benefits of investigator-initiated research, including multiple receipt dates and review by the Division of Research Grants (DRG) as well as a commitment from NIAID to fund grants in the targeted area.

Because the new system augments the role of Council and outside advisors, NIAID benefits from formulating its initiatives on a broad advisory base.

New Program Announcements—

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NIAID PAs With a Funding Commitment

All PAs published in the *NIH Guide* after September 6, 1996.

PA-97-026	Aspergillosis, Ehrlichioses, and Drug Resistance January 31, 1997, DMID
PAR-97-027	Centers for AIDS Research January 31, 1997, DAIDS
PA-97-029	Immunologic Intervention in Infectious Diseases January 31, 1997, DMID
PA-97-010	NIAID/ASTP Minority Fellowships in Transplantation November 15, 1996, DAIT
PA-97-003	Immunobiological Consequences of Aging October 18, 1996, DAIT
PA-96-078	Novel HIV Vaccine Design October 4, 1996, DAIDS
PA-96-072	Mechanisms of AIDS Pathogenesis September 6, 1996, DAIDS
PA-96-070	Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Pathophysiology August 16, 1996, DMID
PA-96-069	Collaborations for Advanced Strategies in OIs August 9, 1996, DAIDS
PA-96-068	Innovative Drug Discovery Research in AIDS OIs August 2, 1996, DAIDS
PA-96-067	Molecular Correlates of Pathogenesis in Parasitic Diseases July 26, 1996, DMID
PAR-96-060	Acute Infection and Early Disease Research Network June 21, 1996, DAIDS
PA-96-061	Modern Vaccines for Mycoses and Measles June 21, 1996, DMID
PA-96-053	Gender in the Pathogenesis of Autoimmunity: Mechanisms May 10, 1996, DAIT
PA-96-051	Role of Microbes in Autoimmune and Immune-Mediated Diseases May 10, 1996, DAIT
PA-96-048	Expanded Research on Emerging Diseases May 3, 1996, DMID
PAR-96-031	NIDDK-NIAID International Collaboration: Small Grant Awards March 8, 1996, DMID
PA-96-014	Models for HIV Disease and AIDS-Related Malignancies January 26, 1996, DAIDS
PA-95-062	Fellowships and Career Development in IBD May 19, 1995, DAIT
PAR-95-047	NCDDG-HIV April 14, 1995, DAIDS
PA-94-095	Drug Discovery for OIs Associated with AIDS September 16, 1994, DAIDS
PA-94-092	New Insights into Chronic Fatigue Syndrome August 5, 1994, DMID
PA-94-062	Environmental Agents and Asthma April 29, 1994, DAIT
PA-94-019	Infectious Causes of Diarrhea/Wasting Syndrome in People with AIDS December 17, 1993, DAIDS
PA-93-108	Behavioral Research in STDs September 3, 1993, DMID
PA-93-041	Minority Investigators in Asthma and Allergy January 22, 1993, DAIT

NIAID Scientific Programs

This listing shows where NIAID's scientific programs are administered. It is not inclusive; call the appropriate NIAID staff person for additional information (for contacts go to this document on the Web at http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/sup.htm).

DIVISION OF AIDS

DAIDS supports research of the pathogenesis, natural history, and transmission of HIV and HIV disease and promotes progress in its detection, treatment, and prevention.

Basic Sciences Program

Supports basic and applied research of the causes, diagnosis, and prevention of HIV infection and AIDS.

Targeted Interventions Branch

Research areas

targeted drug discovery emphasizing novel therapeutic approaches, including gene therapy, immune restoration, and novel vaccine designs

Pathogenesis Branch

Research areas

molecular and cellular biology, virology, and immunology of virus-host interactions

mechanisms of immunopathogenesis

HIV transmission

Epidemiology Branch

Research areas

population-based research of HIV transmission and associated biological, behavioral, and environmental factors

correlation between immunologic and virologic events and clinical outcome

trends in natural history

Vaccine and Prevention Research Program

Supports the development of vaccines and other biomedical and behavioral interventions to prevent AIDS.

Preclinical Research Branch

Research areas

preclinical development and evaluation of HIV vaccines

novel vaccine concepts

genetic and immunologic variation

mucosal immunity in SIV, HIV, and SHIV models

delivery methods

adjuvants

correlates of immune protection

Clinical Development Branch

Research areas

coordination of phase I and II clinical trials of potential AIDS vaccines

coordination of mucosal immunology groups characterizing immune responses in HIV-infected and uninfected vaccinated people and primates

Efficacy Trials Branch

Research areas

studies cohorts to prepare for and conduct large domestic and international clinical trials of HIV vaccines and other biomedical and behavioral interventions

Therapeutics Research Program

Develops and oversees research and development of therapies for HIV disease, including OIs and cancers, in adults, infants, children, and adolescents.

Drug Development and Clinical Sciences Branch

preclinical development of experimental therapies

maintenance of a database of potential anti-HIV and -OI compounds

immunologic, virologic, and pharmacologic research related to the design and conduct of clinical trials

HIV Research Branch

clinical research of strategies to treat adult primary HIV infection and neurologic complications

strategies to augment HIV-specific immune responses and general host immunity

Opportunistic Infections Research Branch

preclinical and clinical research to develop better therapies for treating and preventing HIV OIs

Pediatric Medicine Branch

HIV therapies in children and adolescents

strategies to reduce transmission from mother to infant or fetus

Clinical Site Management Branch

management of grants and contracts supporting clinical trials sites

Coordinating Centers Branch

management of grants and contracts supporting biostatistical data management, information systems, laboratory specimen tracking, site monitoring, and operational support of clinical trials networks

Special Resources

AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program
makes reagents and characterized specimens available to AIDS researchers; yearly catalogue and newsletter
contact: Dr. Opendra Sharma
301/496-9041

Pharmacokinetic Assays
available to support preclinical development of AIDS therapies
contact: Dr. Chuck Litterst
301/402-0132

Primate Evaluations of HIV/AIDS Vaccines and Therapeutics
available to support preclinical development of vaccines, transmission blockers, and therapeutics
contacts: Dr. Nancy Miller
301/435-3753 (vaccines)
Dr. Roberta Black
301/496-8199 (therapeutics, transmission blockers)

NIAID HIV/AIDS Research Agenda
contact: Ms. Rona Siskind
301/435-3732

Stored research samples and selected data are available from the following longitudinal cohort and observational studies, and therapeutic and vaccine clinical trials.

Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study and San Francisco Men's Health Study
contact: Dr. Lewis Schrager
301/402-2305

Women's Interagency Health Study
contact: Dr. Paolo Miotti
301/496-9176

Women's and Infants Transmission Study
contact: Dr. Mary Glenn Fowler
301/496-6178

AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Group
contact: Dr. Patricia Fast
301/496-8200

AIDS Clinical Trials Groups
contact: Dr. William Duncan
301/496-8210

Terry Beirn Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS
contact: Ms. Pamela Scanlon
301/496-0701

DIVISION OF ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY, AND TRANSPLANTATION

DAIT supports studies of the immune system in health and the pathogenesis, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of disease caused by immune dysfunction.

Asthma, Allergy, and Inflammation Branch

Diseases

asthma
atopic dermatitis
hypersensitivity reactions
rhinitis
sepsis
sinusitis
urticaria

Research areas

molecular basis of hypersensitivity
basic studies of asthma and allergy mechanisms
new therapies for asthma and allergies
epidemiology and prevention
phagocyte biology
mechanisms of host defense

Basic Immunology Branch

Research areas

origin, maturation, and interactions of immune cells
immune cell receptor, ligand, and cytokine biology
molecular basis of activation, antigen recognition, tolerance, and immune response regulation
hematopoiesis and stem cell biology
basic immunology of vaccines

Office of Epidemiology and Clinical Trials

Provides in-house expertise on methodologies to design, manage, and analyze clinical research and, through grants, supports epidemiologic research of the etiology, prevention, and treatment of asthma, allergy, and autoimmune diseases.

Clinical Immunology Branch

Diseases

autoimmune diseases
inborn and acquired immune deficiencies

Research areas

basic research of disease mechanisms
immunotherapy of disease processes
disorders mediated by lymphocyte products
enhancement of vaccine effectiveness in neonates
mucosal immunity
macrophage immunology

Genetics and Transplantation Branch

Research areas

identification and characterization of immune regulation genes and use of this knowledge to potentiate or inhibit immune responses
development of animal models of human diseases
manipulation of the immune response to enhance vaccine efficacy and long-term graft survival
application of knowledge about the regulation of immune response genes to problems of immune dysfunction, whether native or in transplantation
clinical trials of new methods to decrease transplant rejection including methods to induce donor-specific tolerance

Special Resources

American Type Culture Collection
Transgenic and Knockout Mouse Repository

contact: Dr. Helen Quill
301/496-7551

DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DMID supports research to control diseases caused by all infectious agents except HIV through basic investigation of microbial physiology and antigenic structure, pathogenesis, clinical trials of drugs and vaccines, and epidemiologic studies. Of particular interest are emerging and reemerging diseases.

Bacteriology and Mycology Branch

Bacterial diseases

actinomycete infections
enterococcal infections
legionellosis
Lyme disease
nosocomial infections
plague
Rickettsial diseases (including *Coxiella*, *Ehrlichia*, and *Rickettsia*)
septic shock
staphylococcal infections
urinary tract infections
vector-borne bacterial infections
zoonotic bacterial infections

Fungi and fungal diseases

aspergillosis
blastomycosis
candidiasis
coccidioidomycosis
cryptococcosis
histoplasmosis
Pneumocystis carinii
other primary and opportunistic fungal infections

Research areas

antibacterial and antifungal drug resistance
host-pathogen interactions
genetics, molecular and cell biology
medical bacteriology and mycology
microbial structure and function
development of vaccines, drugs, and diagnostics
clinical trials of antifungal agents

Special Resource

NIAID Mycoses Study Group
contact: Dr. Stephen Heyse
301/496-7728

Biometry Branch

Provides consultation on the design, conduct, and reporting of clinical, population, and laboratory investigations of infectious diseases; analyzes and interprets research data; researches statistical methods; develops computer software to analyze data; provides services and consultation for computer programming, data management, and study coordination; and serves on clinical trial data safety and monitoring boards.

Research areas

design and analysis of vaccine efficacy studies
design of equivalence/similarity trials

Clinical and Regulatory Affairs Branch

Prepares investigational new drug applications for drugs and vaccines developed by DMID contracts and the NIAID Division of Intramural Research and fulfills regulatory requirements of the FDA for all contract-supported DMID clinical studies.

DMID Special Resources

Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units
Phase I, II, and III evaluation of experimental vaccines and therapeutics developed by investigators in academia, industry, and government
Limited resources for pilot lot production of candidate vaccines under good manufacturing practices
contact: Dr. Regina Rabinovich
301/402-2126

Enteric and Hepatic Diseases Branch

Diseases and organisms

Campylobacter
Clostridium
diarrhea
Escherichia coli
gastroduodenal disease, ulcers
gastroenteritis
Helicobacter pylori
hepatitis A, B, C, D, E, G, new agents
Listeria
rotavirus
Salmonella
Shigella
Vibrio cholerae
viral hepatitis
Yersinia

Research areas

immunology of infectious diseases including protective immune responses and immunopathogenesis in animal models and humans

vaccine research and development

development of adjuvants and vaccine vectors

identification of new drug targets

immunotherapeutic drug discovery and development

epidemiology and transmission

basic virology; bacteriology; natural history

Special Resources

Woodchuck animal model
for hepatitis B and D infection and disease including antiviral studies

In vitro drug screening
for activity against hepatitis B

contact: Dr. Christopher Tseng
301/496-7453

Natural history studies

contact: Dr. Leslye D. Johnson
301/496-7051

Parasitology and International Programs Branch

Diseases and organisms

protozoal infections
- amebiasis
- leishmaniasis
- malaria
- trypanosomiasis
- others (e.g., opportunistic and enteric pathogens)

helminth infections
- cysticercosis
- filariasis
- schistosomiasis
- others (e.g., roundworms, tapeworms, and flukes)

Research areas

parasite biology (genetics, physiology, and biochemistry)

protective immunity, immunopathogenesis, evasion of host responses

clinical and epidemiologic studies of the natural history of tropical and parasitic diseases

research and development of vaccines, drugs, immunotherapeutics, and diagnostics

vector biology and control; mechanisms of pathogen transmission

Special Resources

Schistosome-infected snails and mammals

Filariasis repository

contact: Ms. Mitzi Sereno
301/496-2544

Respiratory Diseases Branch

Diseases and organisms

viral respiratory diseases, including
- influenza
- parainfluenza viruses
- respiratory syncytial virus

bacterial respiratory diseases, including
- Group A and B streptococcal infections
- meningitis, including *Hemophilus influenzae*
- pertussis
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infections
- pneumonia
- mycoplasma

mycobacterial diseases
- leprosy
- tuberculosis

Research areas

research and development of drugs, diagnostics, and vaccines

clinical and epidemiologic studies

molecular genetics

structure and function

immune responses

Special Resources

Purified leprosy bacilli and mycobacteria

Mycobacterial derivatives: purified protein, recombinant antigens, complex carbohydrates, lipids, and nucleic acids

contact: Dr. Ann Ginsberg
301/496-5305

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Branch

Diseases and organisms

adverse outcomes of pregnancy

bacterial vaginosis

chancroid

chlamydial infection

genital herpes

gonorrhea

HPV infection

pelvic inflammatory disease

syphilis

trichomoniasis

Research areas

development of diagnostics, drugs, topical microbicides, and vaccines

role of STDs in HIV transmission

role of HIV in altering STD natural history

molecular immunology

epidemiologic and behavioral research

adolescents and STDs

STDs and infertility

STDs and adverse outcomes of pregnancy

STDs and reproductive tract cancer

other chronic sequelae of STDs

Virology Branch

Diseases and organisms

acute viral infections and zoonoses, including
- measles
- rubella
- polio
- dengue
- other arthropod-borne viral diseases
- hemorrhagic fevers
- rabies

persisting viral diseases and viruses, including
- herpesviruses
- adenoviruses
- coronaviruses
- parvoviruses

chronic fatigue syndrome

Research areas

mechanisms of replication, permissiveness, persistence, and latency

vaccines and vectors

genetics and gene regulation

emergence of viral disease

epidemiology and viral evolution

structure and function of viruses and viral proteins

molecularly targeted approaches to identify and characterize antiviral targets and agents

chemical design and synthesis of novel antiviral agents

in vitro screening and evaluation of antiviral activity

preclinical therapeutic (and some prophylactic) evaluations of human viruses in animal models

clinical trials of therapies for viral infections, excluding hepatitis, AIDS, and respiratory infections

Special Resources

In vitro screening and animal model research programs

evaluate the antiviral activity of experimental agents supplied by academic, industrial, and government investigators

contact: Dr. Christopher Tseng
301/496-7453

Reagent Repository

World Health Organization interferon reference standards

antisera against various viruses, e.g., arboviruses and influenza, and mycoplasma

contact: Ms. Thelma Gaither
301/496-7453

Collaborative Antiviral Clinical Studies

contact: Dr. Leigh Sawyer
301/496-7453

How NIAID's Grants, Contracts, Review, and Program Staff Can Help You

How do you know whom to contact for help with a problem or to get information, such as insights into reviewers' comments about your application at the initial review meeting?

An important part of the job of many NIAID staff is providing aid to the extramural community. Working in the Institute's Division of Extramural Activities (DEA) are grants specialists, contract specialists, and scientific review administrators, all of whom have special expertise that is available to you.

Program staff in the program divisions — DAIDS, DAIT, and DMID — also provide information to applicants and grantees.

The information below should help you figure out the appropriate staff person to call for your particular questions.

Grants specialists take care of business issues

Grants management specialists in NIAID's Grants Management Branch, DEA, can help you with any business-type question, such as what costs are allowable and how to present the budget in an application.

Specialists administer your grant's budget and make sure the policy and reporting requirements have been fulfilled.

They can help you keep up with new policies that change requirements and privileges for grantees.

For example, GMB staff can let you know which actions need approval and from whom, helping you avoid delays.

If you need information on any business issue concerning your grant, contact the grants manage-

ment specialist listed in the terms of acceptance section of your Notice of Grant Award or call 301/496-7075.

Contract specialists manage contracts

Like their counterparts in GMB, contract specialists can help you with many technical, business, and cost-related questions.

Housed in DEA's Contract Management Branch, contract specialists are well trained in the Federal Acquisition Regulations and other rules and procedures.

They can advise you about changes in the scope of the research, the allowability of specific costs, and procedures for obtaining approval for travel or equipment.

They can also provide valuable information on how to submit a successful proposal.

NIAID's peer review experts

As in other NIH institutes, NIAID review staff oversee the peer review of applications for program projects, cooperative agreements, training (T series) and research career (K series) grants, and applications responding to RFAs and RFPs.

In contrast, DRG reviews investigator-initiated R01, SBIR, and fellowship (F series) applications.

Investigators and reviewers can call a scientific review administrator (SRA) with questions related to a specific review or with general questions, such as, can an applicant submit additional data to clarify the approach after the application deadline has passed?

Working in DEA's Scientific Review Program, Institute review staff have a wealth of knowledge about peer review.

They can help investigators with any issue related to grant and proposal preparation and provide invaluable insights into the peer review process.

These scientists can explain what reviewers look for in an application and advise you about application format and documentation.

Program staff—your science connection

Working in the Institute's extramural program Divisions — DAIDS, DAIT, and DMID — NIAID's program officers administer research programs.

These staff scientists assist extramural researchers throughout the life of an award. They serve as your primary sources of information on scientific, administrative, and policy matters concerning your grant or NIH issues.

NIAID's resident scientists can help answer many questions you may have, for example, what is the competitiveness of your application relative to the Institute's payline and priorities (this is especially important for applications responding to program announcements).

Because they often attend review meetings (although they do not participate in the review), program officers may be able to let you know about comments made at the initial review meeting about your application.

With only the summary statement critique to go on, applicants are sometimes not sure whether their application is worth revising and resubmitting.

By providing additional feedback on the discussion, program officials can often help you resolve that question.

Program staff can also help you explore new scientific directions. Further, they provide liaison for resolving scientific issues with grants management staff (see above).

NIAID's Council—Our Chief Advisory Committee

The National Advisory Allergy and Infectious Diseases Council embodies a diverse perspective on science, health, and the human impact of disease.

Its 18 voting members include 12 health or science experts and six lay members with expertise in areas such as policy or law.

Six nonvoting ***ex officio*** members provide liaison with higher level agencies or organizations having missions congruent with that of NIAID. They are the Secretary, DHHS; Director, NIH; Director, NIAID; Chief Medical Director, Department of Veteran Affairs; Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs; and Director, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. All members usually serve for four years.

Council's scientists contribute technical expertise and an understanding of the needs of the research communities of academia and industry.

To supplement this knowledge in specialized fields, NIAID also invites *ad hoc* members. And lay Council members impart a perspective of people affected by diseases under NIAID support.

Each Council member also belongs to one of the three Council subcommittees — AIDS, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, and Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation — corresponding to the Institute's extramural divisions.

Council breaks up into separate subcommittee meetings to do much of its work. Discussions of specific research areas often take place in the subcommittees.

What Council does

As required by law, chartered advisory committees, including the councils, are part of every NIH institute.

NIAID's Council plays four key roles: performing secondary peer review of applications, advising the Institute on policy, reviewing programs, and developing and conducting concept clearance for initiatives — program announcements, RFAs, and RFPs.

Policy is usually discussed by the full Council. NIAID often seeks Council's advice before modifying policies for training, health information dissemination, administration, budget, and other topics.

The Council-related issues of this newsletter highlight many of these discussions — such as our trial of electronic peer review, NIAID's new bridge award program, and Council's advice to allow a second MERIT award.

The subcommittees conduct most other business. During program reviews, the subcommittees counsel NIAID on a program's effectiveness in meeting long-range goals and the needs of the fields it supports.

Second level of peer review

The second level of peer review is a core charge of Council.

A new electronic system lets members electronically approve applications with percentiles within the payline and having no special concerns several weeks before Council meets.

A database holds the summary statements reviewed by a special Council subcommittee. Hard-copies of summary statements for study section-approved applications are also available to all Council members.

Applications with concerns are still reviewed by the subcommittees in closed session meetings.

Council meetings

Council usually meets in September, February, and June.

In part, the budget and appropriation cycle drives its activities. For example, discussions at the September meeting reflect the beginning of the fiscal year.

During the first morning, the subcommittees meet individually to review applications needing special consideration, discuss selective pay nominations, and vote on MERIT awards.

In the afternoon, Dr. Fauci convenes the full Council.

He presents scientific and administrative topics, often including staff or outside speakers.

This session is followed by a short, closed meeting of the full Council to discuss and formally approve subcommittee recommendations for funding grants.

The second day is devoted exclusively to subcommittee meetings, focusing on scientific and programmatic topics.

The Division of AIDS has a unique structure in that its subcommittee meets in conjunction with another congressionally mandated body, the AIDS Research Advisory Committee.

Concept clearance

NIAID has begun to seek Council's advice for long-term planning at an earlier stage than previously.

With this new approach, Council and *ad hoc* advisors will counsel the Institute on broad research priorities and directions.

After a decision is made to go forward with an initiative, the Council subcommittee reviews it again for budget and mechanism (e.g., grant or contract).

For further information on Council meetings, you can view the Council minutes at http://www.niaid.nih.gov/facts/facts.htm.

NIAID Council Members

Four Council members' terms expired in 1996. NIAID welcomes new members Dr. Robert B. Couch, Mr. Stephan E. Lawton, Ms. Emily J. Spitzer, and Dr. Lowell S. Young.

Janet S. Butel, Ph.D., is distinguished service professor and head, Division of Molecular Virology, Baylor College of Medicine, and director of Baylor's Center for AIDS Research. Her research interests focus on tumor viruses and the molecular basis of cellular changes. Dr. Butel has served on NIH advisory committees and editorial boards and is a past representative for virologists for the Amercian Society of Microbiology.

Gary B. Carpenter, M.D., is departmental chairman and training program director of allergy and immunology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and allergy consultant to the Army Surgeon General. He is a member of the Residency Review Committee for Allergy and Immunology of the ACGME and associate professor of clinical medicine and pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda. Dr. Carpenter's research focuses on environmental allergens and asthma and adverse reactions to medications.

Robert B. Couch, M.D., is professor and chairman, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and professor of medicine, Baylor College of Medicine. He has served on many advisory committees, including an NIH study section, NIAID Board of Scientific Counselors, National Vaccine Advisory Committee, and FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee. Dr. Couch was an associate editor of research journals and a microbiology text book. His research has focused on acute respiratory diseases, particularly influenza and rhinoviruses, and vaccine development.

Martin E. Delaney is the executive director of Project Inform, a nonprofit organization that supplies AIDS treatment information to more than 30,000 people nationwide. He is author of many AIDS-related works and has represented the AIDS community in many constituency and governmental AIDS organizations, including the Presidential AIDS Commission and congressional committees. Mr. Delaney serves on local and national advisory boards and advisory groups, including the IOM Roundtable on the Development of Drugs and Vaccines for AIDS.

Jerrold J. Ellner, M.D., is professor and acting chair of medicine, Case Western Reserve University and University Hospital, Cleveland. He is also co-chair, Tuberculosis and Leprosy Panel, U.S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Sciences Program and member of the Immunology of Mycobacterial Diseases Steering Committee, WHO. In 1990, Dr. Ellner received the Squibb Award from the Infectious Diseases Society of America. His main research interests are the immunopathogenesis of tuberculosis and MAC disease and their interactions with HIV infection.

Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D., holds the Irene Heinz Given professorship of Immunology, Harvard School of Public Health, and is an associate rheumatologist and immunologist at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston. In her research, she studies the structure, function, and regulation of the major histocompatibility complex and gene expression in T helper cell differentiation. Dr. Glimcher received the Lee S. Howley Award from the American College of Rheumatology and was recently appointed to the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Scientific Advisory Board.

Fred Gordin, M.D., is chief of infectious diseases, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Washington, DC, and associate professor of medicine, Georgetown University. His major research interests include clinical and epidemiologic studies of tuberculosis, other mycobacterial infections, and HIV.

James M. Hughes, M.D., is the director of the National Center for Infectious Diseases of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Hughes has published on many infectious disease topics, including the epidemiology and pathogenesis of enteric diseases and the epidemiology, surveillance, and control of nosocomial and emerging infections.

Louise M. Jacobbi has been director of the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency for the past six years. She was an instructor in surgery at the Louisiana State University School of Medicine, Shreveport, and clinical research associate at Tulane University. Ms. Jacobbi has served as president of the North American Transplant Coordinators Organization, was the first governor for the American Board of Transplant Coordinators, and has served on the Board of Directors for the United Network for Organ Sharing. She has worked and published in the field of transplantation for the past 35 years. Her areas of interest are clinical research, organ recovery, and histocompatibility.

Howard M. Johnson, Ph.D., is a graduate research professor, Department of Microbiology and Cell Science, University of Florida at Gainesville. He has extensive research experience in immunology and allergic diseases with special interests in antitumor and antiviral properties of interferons and superantigens in disease. Dr. Johnson has served on many editorial boards, journal review groups, and an NIH study section.

Warren D. Johnson, Jr., M.D., is the B.H. Kean Professor of Tropical Medicine and chief, Division of International Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Cornell University Medical College. He is also chair of the Subspecialty Board on Infectious Diseases of the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Johnson's research interests include the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and therapy of parasitic diseases, HIV infection, and tuberculosis.

Stephan E. Lawton, J.D., is a lawyer in a private practice, representing medical specialty organizations, medical care companies, research organizations, and public health associations. These include the American Academy of Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases Society of America, and the Endocrine Society. He has also worked on Capitol Hill, developing legislation in health-related areas, and was recently chairman of the PHS Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines.

Garry T. Lyle is controller, Eastern Operations, Customer Administrative Center, the Xerox Corporation, St. Petersburg, Florida. Mr. Lyle is a former professional athlete with the Chicago Bears (1967 to 1974). In his 20 years of experience working in business operations, Mr. Lyle's management focus has included logistics and distribution, profit and loss, audit readiness control, and customer service. He is an active member of Family Resources, Inc., serving on its board and on several other committees.

Paula M. Pitha-Rowe, Ph.D., is professor at the Johns Hopkins Oncology Center and the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics and is associate director for basic research training at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore. Her research focuses on the interferon system, interactions between HIV-1 and host cells, and regulation of early inflammatory genes in infected cells. Dr. Pitha-Rowe has served on NIH study sections and is a member of the FDA Advisory Group on Biological Modifiers.

Orvalene Prewitt is president and cofounder, National Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia Association. She cofounded and served as secretary to the National Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Advisory Council, now the governing body of the American Association for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. She is also a consultant to the PHS CFS Interagency Coordinating Committee. Ms. Prewitt works to build a bridge of understanding between the medical and lay communities.

Samuel C. Silverstein, M.D., is John C. Dalton professor and chairman, Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics, and professor, Department of Medicine, Columbia University, New York. He is an internationally recognized leader in phagocyte and host defense research. His studies explore the regulation of phagocyte chemotaxis, receptor trafficking, mechanisms of phagocytosis, and the export of antibiotics. Dr. Silverstein serves on several editorial boards and has received many honors.

Emily J. Spitzer, J.D., is vice president of research for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International. In addition to serving on its International Board of Directors, she has

participated in the organization's grant review process for the past seven years and has also served on its Government Relations Committee helping to formulate strategies to encourage more biomedical research not only in the public sector but also in partnership between public and private organizations.

W. Gary Tarpley, Ph.D., is vice-president, discovery research, Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc., Kalamazoo. Dr. Tarpley's research interests include the expression of essential HIV genes and analyses of the structure and function of critical HIV proteins, molecular retrovirology, the molecular mechanisms of viral drug resistance, the molecular mechanisms involved in the transformation of animal cells, the structure and function of oncogenes, and molecular targets for the discovery of cancer drugs.

Judith M. Thomas, Ph.D., is professor of surgery, microbiology, and immunology and director of the Histocompatibility Laboratory, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. She is an expert in the field of transplantation immunology and has researched the mechanisms of allograft survival, especially the induction of tolerance. Dr. Thomas has served on a variety of Public Health Service advisory committees and on the editorial boards of several journals.

Mildred F. Williamson is administrator of the Women and Children's HIV Program, Cook County Hospital, Chicago, and is a member of the Cook County Hospital AIDS Prevention Service management team. She has been a recipient of grants from the Chicago Department of Health Office of AIDS Prevention, Robert R. McComick Charitable Foundation, and the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Ms. Williamson has a long history of experience with organizations providing social services and patient advocacy.

Lowell S. Young, M.D., is director, Kuzell Institute for Arthritis and Infectious Diseases, and clinical professor of medicine, University of California San Francisco. Dr. Young's research includes basic investigation of bacterial pathogenesis and treatment of OIs especially in immunocompromised hosts. He is editor of *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy* and an author of over 300 research papers and book chapters. Dr. Young has received the Langmuir Prize from CDC and Garrod Medal of the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.

New Program Announcements—

continued from page 3

With the help of outside experts, NIAID and Council are exploring scientific opportunities together. This interplay bears on the development of concepts — the earliest idea for potential initiatives — and the decision to move a concept forward into an initiative.

Concepts on the Web

For the first time starting with January Council, NIAID is making concept information publicly available on the World Wide Web *(http://www.niaid.nih.gov/ncn/concept.htm)*.

Use this information wisely! Keep in mind that concepts are very early ideas for an initiative. They give you notice of a potential initiative well in advance; however, some concepts will be dropped due to competing priorities.

Annual Council review

Under the new system, Council regularly assesses the effectiveness of NIAID's published PAs in meeting program objectives.

Because last year marked the transition for the PA shift, Council review will begin this year, assessing whether a PA has succeeded in expanding a research area, should be modified, or should remain open for another year.

Council will also take a deeper look at program and portfolio balance in the context of other NIH-funded research in the PA's scientific area.

Though most of NIAID's initiatives are now PAs, occasionally an RFA or RFP will be more appropriate.

NIAID *Council News*

NIAID *Council News* presents perspectives from the open sessions of the National Advisory Allergy and Infectious Diseases Council. The newsletter is an administrative publication produced by the Division of Extramural Activities, NIAID. A limited number of copies are distributed to NIAID grantees, contractors, and selected others. Contents are in the public domain, and duplication is encouraged.

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